

Harney County
Cooperative Weed Management Area
2010 Season Report



Partners

This is the 6th year of the CWMA. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been sent to all potential partners for new signatures that will be good for another 5 years. A few grammatical changes were made, however none of the changes altered the authorities or meanings in the MOU. Below is a list of current CWMA partners

Harney County Weed Board

Burns District Bureau of Land Management

Harney County OSU Extension

Harney County Watershed Council

Harney Soil & Water Conservation District

USFW Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

Oregon Department of Transportation—District 13

Harney County

*Oregon Department of State Lands**

*USFS Emigrant Creek Ranger District**

*Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Station**

*Burns District Natural Resource Conservation District Office**

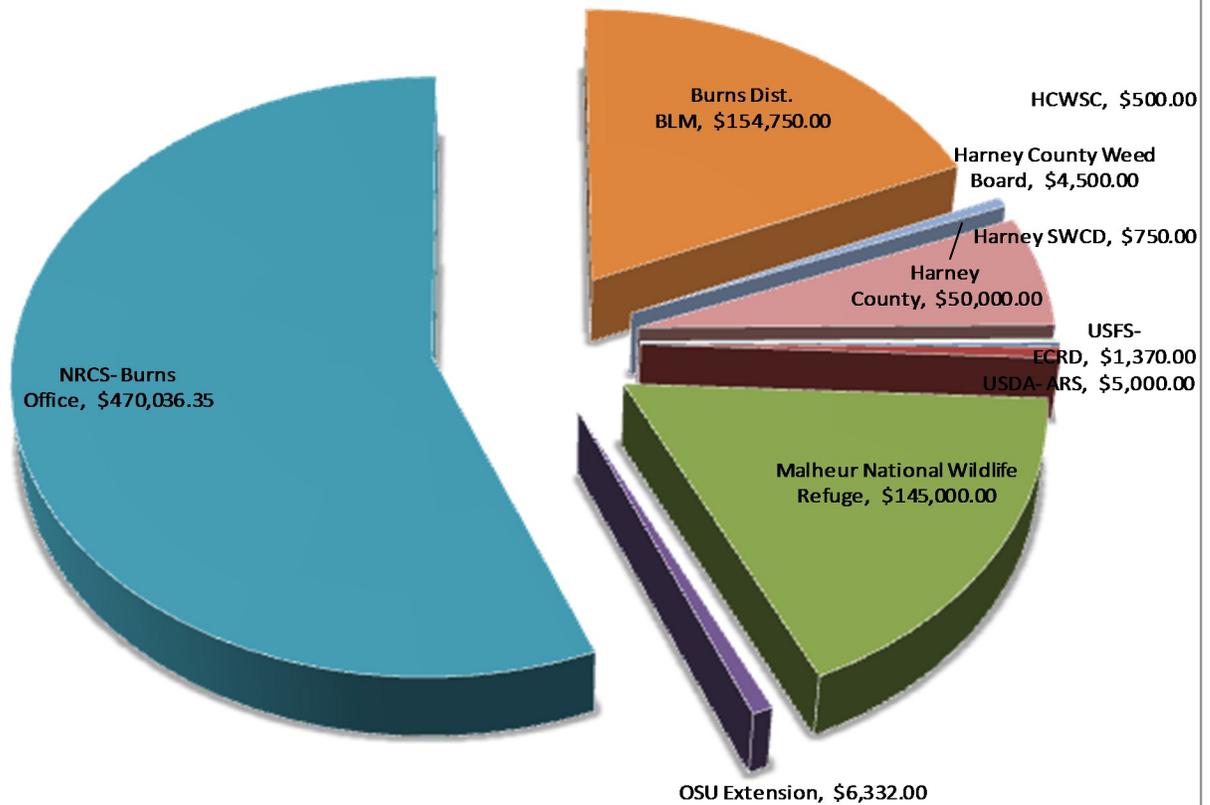
*Burns Paiute Tribe**

*Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife**

Advisory: Oregon Department of Agriculture

**MOU not yet Returned*

Partner Contributions



While not every partner is able to provide funds directly to the CWMA, each partner does complete some noxious weed education or control work through their agency. The above chart shows each partners' respective budget for work in the arena of noxious weeds. This includes weed education, control, research, materials, and labor. With out our partners and the efforts that they make the Harney County CWMA would not be the success that it is today.

Annual Operating Plan

What	When	Contact Person
<u>Education/Awareness Events</u>		
Pesticide Recertification Training	April 29th	Jesse, Dustin
Weeds in the Classroom	April	Jesse, Dustin
Free Spray day	May/June	Pam, Lesley, Weed Board
Weedy Evening -Targeted Grazing	June	Dustin, Lesley, Caryn
4-H Camp	July	Dustin,
4-H Science Camp	July	Dustin, Jesse
Alien Invasion Curriculum	August	Lesley, Dustin, Jesse
HC Fair	September 8-12	Jesse & ALL
County Wide Medusahead Project	September	Jesse, Bonnie, Lesley
Agency Training	TBA	By Agency
Weed Awareness Kiosks	year round	Lesley, Jess
Weed Corner Article	By-Weekly	Jesse
<u>Cooperative Projects (Continuing)</u>		
South Fork Malheur River P.P.	July 17/18	Jesse, Shane, Gary Page
Targeted Grazing Workshop	June 12-18	Lesley, Dustin, Weed Board
Not So Happy Valley PP	July	Jesse, Dan Otley, Marty
HV African Rue	June-August	Jesse, Bonnie
Diamond CWMA	August	Lesley, Jess, Dustin, Karen
Material Sites	All Summer	By Agency
<u>Biological Control Projects</u>		
Dalmatian toadflax	June	Bonnie, Jesse, Lesley
Canada Thistle	June/July	Bonnie, Lesley
Purple Loosestrife	July 17-18	Bonnie
Diffuse Knapweed	July	Bonnie, Caryn, Jesse
<u>Reserarch Projects</u>		
Medusahead Preojects- Ongoing	year round	Lesley, Kirk
Russian Knapweed Proejcts- Ongoing	year round	Lesley, Dustin
African rue	year round	Dustin, Jesse

Education ~ Awareness

Harney County Recertification Training

April

This years training reach 16 applicators and two investigators. A total of 8 credits were offered for an 8 hour class.

New product use and product information was made available. Laurie Gordon from the Oregon Department of Agriculture presented on the new requirements from DEQ that will be in place soon!

Education ~ Awareness

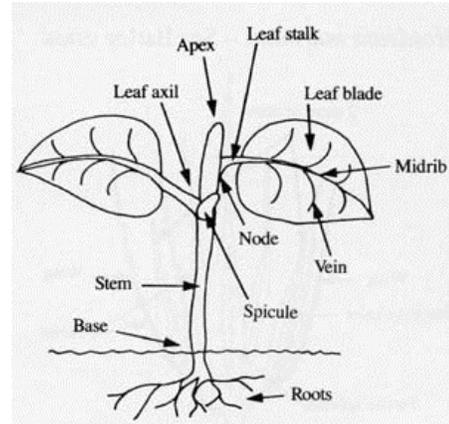
Weeds in the Classroom

April

1st Grade

Hi ho, hi ho, off to Slater we go...

This year Dustin Johnson and Jesse Barnes were in the three Slater First Grade classes for weed education. The Alien Invasion curriculum was used.



There were a total of 62 students that learn the parts of the plant and what those parts do, and how important they are.

At the end of the lesson, students had to create their own noxious weed, give it a name, and tell something about their plant that made it a weed. Students had a great time.

Students also learned how noxious weeds can use their plant parts to out compete other good plants.



Plant Name: _____

Description of the plant: (what does it look like?)

Why is it a weed?

Total Cost:

Time: 12 hours

Materials: \$50.00

Education ~ Awareness

Weeds in the Classroom

April

5th Grade

Mr. Mckinley and Mrs. Lardy's 5th grade classes. A total of 40 students.

Over a 5 week period, students learned how soils form, what they form from, how plants effect the soil, how noxious weeds effect the soil and how they can increase the loss of soils: erosion.

The purpose of going in to the 5th grade classes was to bring weed education in to the classroom. Students learned about the effects that noxious weeds can have on soils.



The class came to the conclusion that it is better to have weeds than bare ground, and it better to have desirable deep rooted plants than weeds.

After the 5 week course students came and gave a presentation to the CWMA about what they learned and what they thought of the lessons. They also presented Dustin Johnson and Jesse Barnes with large thank you cards.

Total Cost:

Time: 40 hours

Materials: \$100.00

Education ~ Awareness

A Weedy Evening

Teaching your Cow how to EAT Weeds!

June

Welcome to our Weedy Evening! This year we highlighted teaching your cows to eat weeds. We invited Kathy Voth to attend and give an evening presentation on her work with getting cattle to try new foods: weeds.

She has been able to train cattle to eat Russian knapweed, Scotch thistle, white top, Canada thistle, Dalmatian toadflax, etc.

A total of 7 ranchers signed up to be 'Harney County Ginny Pigs' and have successfully trained their cattle to eat weeds.

The evening began at 6pm at the Burns Elks Lodge. A total of 50 people attended the event. The Harney County cattle Women provided decorations and the evening's meal.



Total Cost:

Facility:

Meals: 1,200

Education ~ Awareness

4-H Science Camp

August



We were invited back again this year to present at the 4-H Science Camp. This year we focused on what makes noxious weed so invasive and how they can impact an ecosystem. A total of 46 kids were present.

Participants also looked at biological control agents and their role and purpose in our ecosystems. To gain some more understanding, the kids participated in the great race for survival. Noxious weeds can spread fast, killing off desirable species, however biological control agents can move even faster.



After the race kids were put to work on finding some noxious weeds at the Slater Grade School. They then had to cross reference to see if there were any available biological control agents for their plant.



Total Cost

Time 3 hours
Materials \$0



Education ~ Awareness

Alien Invasion

August

Teacher Workshop at Lake Creek Camp

Teaching those teachers to use the Alien Invasion curriculum this year at Lake Creek Campground.



We had a total of 7 teachers attend the eastside workshop. Teacher were from Western Oregon, Crane, Juntura, Malheur County, and Grant County.

Teachers were able to meet resource professionals from their areas and find out what resources are available to them as well what programs that are on-going in their areas.



Teachers go to go into the field to learn how to identify plants, identify potential weedy areas, and class project areas. Teachers also were able to have discussion on what makes an area susceptible to weed infestation.

After a week of learning, teachers were able to put what they had learned in to practice through service learning.

Teachers had good feed back about the workshop and the curriculum. As a result of this workshop, the Juntura 4-8th grade teacher is using the Alien Invasion curriculum in her class all year long, themed "Survivor."



Total Cost:

Time:

Materials:

Travel:

10

Education ~ Awareness

Heppner EBIPM

November

A full house at the Heppner Ecologically Based integrated Pest Management. Many land owners were present to learn all they could about controlling medusahead rye and other annual grasses.

There were many excellent questions about the rate and timing of herbicide applications for the control of medusahead. In the Heppner there is more private land than federal lands. Landowners are stepping up to make things happen.



Dustin Johnson also attended along with a couple of folks from the local ARS office to present more information on the importance of integrated pest management and the importance of existing desirable vegetation. There was also a presentation on a new variety of forage kocio that will be available soon to producers.

Folks in Heppner were also interested in beginning their own CWMA to aid in funding for on the ground control projects. Portions of the landowners fall within the boundaries of other neighboring CWMA's, however Morrow County is not a all inclusive CWMA. To aid in the effort, Jesse provided copies of the Harney County CWMA's 2009 Season Report.

Total Cost:

Time: 14 hours
Materials: \$20.00

Projects

Free Spray Day!

May

Because of the Free Spray day success in 2009, the CWMA decided to hold another Free Spray Day this year. It was held during the Harney County Ag, Auto, Home and Garden Show in May, a 2 day event.

Free Spray Day



Date & Time:

May 21 from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm

May 22 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Only while supplies last!!!!

The weather was not cooperating and provided freezing temperatures, rain, and snow. As a result the community turn out was not what we had hoped for, but still not bad. A total of 75 people participated. It is recommended to try for later in the spring for this event!

The Weed Wagon was also there to help educate folk about the importance of weed control and proper herbicide use.



*Harney County CWMA will be **giving away mixed ready—to—spray** herbicide on Friday and Saturday, May 21st and 22nd, beginning at 12 pm and 9 am at the H.C. Fair Grounds. The mix can be applied to almost any weed in your lawn and driveway. Bring your sprayer! Free Spray is available on a **FIRST COME FIRST SERVED** basis!*

Total Cost

Time: 40 hours:

Materials: \$200.00 (on hand from previous year)

This event is sponsored by Harney County CWMA, Harney County Weed Control, and Harney County Weed Board

Projects

Teaching your Cows to EAT Weeds

June & July

Beginning in June, Lesley Richman and Dustin Johnson provided the beginning education of teaching cows to eat weeds to ranchers. A total of 7 ranches participated with cattle being trained to eat Canada thistle, white top, scotch thistle, and Russian knapweed

Steps to Getting YOUR Cows to eat Weeds:

1. Don't be skeptic!
2. Trick your cows: If alfalfa is good, cob, bran and pellets are better...just because it is funky to eat does not mean it is bad for me!
3. Try, try, try again. Once they get use to the tricky to eat foods, then they like the odd weed
4. Plan ahead for the skittish cow...you need to be sneaky sneaky.
5. Put them in the pasture to try out their re-fined pallets!



It worked! Canada thistle that has been eaten in the field after the training.



Total Cost

Time: 100 hours provided by partners

Materials: \$980.00

Cathy Voth: \$7600.00

Projects

Crane—Drewsey Medusahead

October

Following up on last 2009's treatments, this year this project was able to treat 2,400 acres of newly identified areas of medusahead. Some areas that were treated last year also required re-treating due to applicator error skips. As stated by the guarantee, the skips in last years application were re-treated free of charge.

This year the NRCS offered EQIP to landowners in the Drewsey and Crane area that would pay for assistance in integrated pest management. Including last years participants, there were of total 12 landowners that treated medusahead this year.

One good thing this year was all the rain during the project. We should see excellent results next spring.

This project is planned to continue for the next few years. It is intended to begin medusahead inventory and control in the Riley area in 2011.

Applicator error skip near Warm Springs.



Total Cost:

Time- 150 hours = \$6000.00

Application & herbicide: \$64,800.00

